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REMARKS

Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Claims 1 and 7-9 are independent.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6.544,282 (Dae et al.).

As discussed with the Examiner carlier today (May 17, 2005), the <u>Dae patent</u> application was filed on February 21, 2001.

This application claims an earlier priority date of <u>December 16, 1998</u> (currently pending application no. 10/714,070, filed November 14, 2003, is a Continuation of Application No. 10/095,753, filed March 11, 2002, which is a Division of Application No. 09/757,124, filed January 8, 2001, which is a Division of Application No. 09/215,038, filed December 16, 1998) – which obviously does not allow Dac to be applied as prior art against this application under 35 USC 102(e).

In view of the above comments, the outstanding 102(e) rejection is believed to be most and reconsideration is requested.

Since the Applicant has fully responded to the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that in regard to the above remarks that the pending application is patentable over the art of record and prompt review and issuance is accordingly requested. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this response or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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